

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **Cancelled**

2. **Cancelled**

3. **Cancelled**

4. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~An~~ isolated nucleic acid of ~~Claim 1~~ having at least 95% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52;~~

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52, lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

(e) ~~(a)~~ the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51;

(d) ~~(b)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51; or

(e) ~~(c)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid is more highly expressed in normal skin tissue compared to melanoma, ~~or wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide that is more highly expressed in normal skin tissue compared to melanoma.~~

5. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated nucleic acid of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 4 having at least 99% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

(a) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52;~~

(b) ~~a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52, lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

(e) ~~(a)~~ the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51;

(d) ~~(b)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51; or

(e) ~~(c)~~ the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid is more highly expressed in normal skin tissue compared to melanoma, ~~or wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide that is more highly expressed in normal skin tissue compared to melanoma.~~

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6. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated nucleic acid comprising:
- ~~(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52;~~
  - ~~(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52, lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
  - ~~(e)~~(a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51;
  - ~~(d)~~(b) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51; or
  - ~~(e)~~(c) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245.
7. **Cancelled**
8. **Cancelled**
9. **Canceled**
10. **Canceled**
11. **(Previously Presented)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51.
12. **(Previously Presented)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51.
13. **(Original)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245.
14. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to:
- ~~(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52;~~
  - ~~(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:52, lacking its associated signal peptide;~~
  - ~~(e)~~(a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51 or a complement thereof;
  - ~~(d)~~(b) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51 or a complement thereof; or
  - ~~(e)~~(c) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245 or a complement thereof;

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wherein said stringent conditions comprise 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5 x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is suitable for use as a PCR primer or probe; and

wherein said isolated nucleic acid is at least about 20 nucleotides in length.

15. **Canceled**

16. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least ~~40~~about 50 nucleotides in length.

17. **(Currently Amended)** A vector comprising the nucleic acid of ~~Claim 1~~Claim 4.

18. **(Original)** The vector of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

19. **(Original)** A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 17.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The host cell of Claim 19, wherein said cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary cell, an E. coli or a yeast cell.

21. **(New)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least about 75 nucleotides in length.

22. **(New)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least about 100 nucleotides in length.

23. **(New)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least about 150 nucleotides in length.

24. **(New)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least about 200 nucleotides in length.

25. **(New)** The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 14 which is at least about 250 nucleotides in length.

26. (New) An isolated nucleic acid having at least 95% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51;
- (b) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51; or
- (c) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 51 under conditions of 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5 x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

27. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 26 having at least 99% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51;
- (b) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51; or
- (c) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203245;

wherein said isolated nucleic acid hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO: 51 under conditions of 50% formamide, 5 x SSC (0.75 M NaCl, 0.075 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5 x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50 µg/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2 x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1 x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

28. (New) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 26.

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29. **(New)** The vector of Claim 28, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

30. **(New)** A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 28.

31. **(New)** The host cell of Claim 30, wherein said cell is a CHO cell, an E. coli or a yeast cell.